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SOURCE Wen-hui Pao.

AUTONOMOUS AREAS
SHOW MUCH PROGRESS

In the last 2 years much progress has been made along political, economic, cultural and other lines by the autonomous regions of Inner Mongolia. Since the autonomous regime was set up on 1 May 1947, Mongols and Chinese have shared political power in instituting land reform and other constructive measures to alleviate the condition of the masses. The Inner Mongolian Liberation Army has worked closely with similar armed forces to repulse Kuomintang attacks. In 633 encounters with the enemy during the last 2 years, they have inflicted some 20,000 casualties.

The old feudal privileges have been abolished under the land-reform program to improve the lot of the poor peasants. Incomplete returns from nine banners in the Hsing-an and Ma wen-mo-jen leagues showed that more than 494,500 acres of land and 156,000 animals have been distributed among the peasants. This has contributed greatly to raising the people's morale, and production has subsequently increased. Plans are also being made to open up new land in the Hulun Buir League.

The government encourages stock raising. Since 15 August 1945, the number of herds has increased from 600,000 to 800,000 in the Hulun Buir League. Measures are also being taken to prevent epidemics. Of 70,000 animals affected in the Chao-wu-te (Jo-oda) League, more than 95 percent have recovered.

Such industries as munitions, electric, iron, textile, printing, and food-processing have also been started. Many of these enterprises are state owned or are cooperatives and have shown high productivity. At present, the lumber industry is thriving.

Government finances are in a healthy condition with enough surplus to aid in the war of liberation or in granting loans to various enterprises.

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In the cultural field some 2 million copies of Mongol and Chinese newspapers and more than 200,000 books have been published in the Hsing-an, Hulan Buir, and Ma-ven-mo-jen leagues. At present, there are more than 100,000 children attending school, a figure which is more than twice the number of Manchukuo days. A university and cadre-training school have also been established, while vast improvement has been made in sanitation and preventive medicine.

Organizationally, much progress is evident in the widespread formation of labor and peasant unions. The New Democratic Youth Corps' movement is growing rapidly, with more than 11,000 members already registered. Student and women's federations are rapidly springing up also.

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